

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 NIC-01

DRC-01 /111 W

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O 130905Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4563

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11951

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJ: DETERIORATION OF ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS

REF: SEOUL 6061

1. NORTHEAST ASIA DIVISION DIRECTOR SEO BRIEFED EMBOFF AT 3:30 PM SEPT 13 ON AMB USHIROKU'S REPORT OF HIS MEETING WITH FONMIN KIM DONG JO, WHICH OCCURRED 9:30 AM SAME DAY. SUBSTANCE OF USHIROKU'S REPORT ALONG SAME LINES AS THOSE IN REFTTEL EXCEPT THAT KOREANS INSISTED THAT JAPANESE ACCEPT KOREAN VERSION OF TANAKA LETTER. IN ADDITION, KIM ACCUSED JAPAN OF "DECEPTION DIPLOMACY" WHICH RENDERED POINTLESS ANY EFFORTS BY SHIINA TO EXPLAIN JAPANESE VIEWPOINT ORALLY, UNLESS LETTER CHANGED FIRST.

2. ACCORDING TO SEO, USHIROKU'S INTERPRETATION OF KIM'S REMARKS ON CONSEQUENCES IF GOJ DID NOT ACCEPT KOREAN VERSION OF LETTER WAS TOTAL RPTURE OF RELATIONS EXCEPT FOR CONSULAR TIES.

3. AS FOR JAPAN'S RESPONSE, SEO SAID GOJ HAS MADE POSITION CLEAR AND NOTHING FURTHER CAN BE DONE. FOR THE TIME BEING, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE FONOFF WILL ISSUE NO FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS TO USHIROKU

SINCE THIS MIGHT TRIGGER STRONG ROK MEASURES.

4. AT PRESS CONFERENCE IN TOKYO AFTER CABINET MEETING MORNING OF SEPT 13, ACTING PRIMIN NISHIMURA ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "IF ROK SIDE COMES TO ISSUE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT, GOVT WILL PROBABLY COME TO ISSUE STATEMENT BY CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY IN RESPONSE THERE TO. DEPENDING ON CONTENTS OF ANNOUNCEMENT BY ROK SIDE, FONMIN KIMURA WILL MAKE DIRECT CONTACT WITH PRIMIN TANAKA WHO IS VISITING MEXICO." NISHIMURA ADDED "PRIVATE FEELING" THAT IT WAS NECESSARY "TO WATCH HOW THIRD COUNTRIES SUCH AS US ARE MOVING."

5. FONMIN KIMURA ALSO HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER CABINET MEETING AND SAID "THERE IS NO CHANGE IN JAPAN'S BASIC POSITION, ESPECIALLY AS FAR AS CONTENTS OF PRIMIN TANAKA'S LETTER CONCERNED."
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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30 JUN 2005

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